

leader in the larger Church of God in Christ (COGIC) organization. From 1997–2000, he served the COGIC as the president of its International Youth Department, where he worked with youth to create a peer mentoring program and developed programs for young men and women that promote strong education, bravery, discipline and spiritual development. In his current positions within the larger CGC organization, Bishop Sheard serves as Chairman of the Auxiliaries in Ministries, Superintendent of the Emmanuel District and Administrative Assistance of the North Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, Bishop J. Drew Sheard's service as pastor to the congregation of Greater Emmanuel Institutional Church of God in Christ and his leadership in the Greater Detroit region have done much to strengthen the community. I congratulate him on his elevation to the General Board of the Church of God in Christ and look forward to continuing to work with him to improve the quality-of-life and vitality of our community in Southeast Michigan and many other communities around the world.

CONGRATULATING THE AFRICAN  
AMERICAN MUSEUM OF IOWA

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 26, 2013*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the African American Museum of Iowa in Cedar Rapids on its 20th birthday celebration. It is an honor to have this great institution in my district.

The idea of establishing the African American Museum of Iowa came about in 1993 when a small group from Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Cedar Rapids began the project in celebration of Black History Month. Twenty years later, this facility has become an Iowa landmark that celebrates the rich African

American history in my district and in the state of Iowa.

In June of 2008, the African American Museum was devastated by nearly six feet of floodwater, resulting in the loss of the Museum's flagship exhibit. Through the perseverance of Executive Director Thomas Moore, their Board of Directors, their staff, and the support of their community, the African American Museum pulled through and reopened only seven months after it was closed. The success that this museum has had since it reopened in January of 2009 is a true testament to the hard work of the Museum's staff and volunteers from across Iowa.

Today, I congratulate the African American Museum of Iowa on a successful 20 years. I look forward to the future of this institution as it strives to preserve, exhibit, and teach the African American heritage of Iowa.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
ICE PATROL

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 26, 2013*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Coast Guard International Ice Patrol (IIP). Today marks the IIP's 100th anniversary, and on this occasion I would ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this distinguished group's service towards achieving maritime safety for passengers and commerce traversing the North Atlantic.

Prior to the establishment of an organization tasked with monitoring risks and sharing information, trans-Atlantic travel presented serious dangers to passengers and cargo. Among these risks was the presence of icebergs, which presented numerous obstacles in Transatlantic shipping lanes. These icebergs were a prominent threat to all who braved these long voyages, but it took a tragedy of international

proportions and historic scope to bring the danger into focus. On April 15, 1912, the sinking of the RMS *Titanic* due to an iceberg strike instigated the provided the impetus for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) agreement, and the establishment of the International Ice Patrol, managed by the United States Coast Guard.

Other than the years interrupted by the two world wars, the IIP has been active in every ice season 1913. The Revenue Cutter Service, precursor to the modern day Coast Guard, provided two cutters—the *Seneca* and *Miami*—to meet the needs of protecting trans-Atlantic shipping routes from the dangers of icebergs. For many subsequent decades, Coast Guard IIP ships would brave the waters of the North Atlantic to provide timely data and warning to safeguard global commerce.

The current mission of the International Ice Patrol is to monitor the iceberg activity surrounding the Grand Banks of Newfoundland that threatens trans-Atlantic shipping lanes, with an average of 500 icebergs from Greenland's glaciers drifting into these vital channels. This area, with its high concentration of oil platforms, fishing vessels, fog, and tremendous iceberg activity, makes it one of the most dangerous areas in the world for maritime transportation. Today, Coast Guard fixed wing aircraft perform aerial reconnaissance to monitor icebergs providing real time data on this persistent danger. To date, no ship that has heeded International Ice Patrol warnings has struck an iceberg.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the United States Coast Guard International Ice Patrol's dedication to protecting the lives and livelihoods of the many courageous mariners that daily cross the seas and who form the backbone of our international maritime trade. Safe and reliable transportation is a critical component of trade, which is further a driver of economic growth. We would be bereft of these benefits without the hard work of the men and women of the International Ice Patrol.